THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PRAKASH): (a) Sixteen.

(fo) Yes, Sir.

(A) Goalpara, by March, 91. Manga-ldoi, Naibari, Nowgaon, Dhemaji, Mori-gaon & Tezpur during 91-92.

Subject to the availability of equipment, the following additional stations are proposed to be provided with STDl facility during the 8th Plan period: —i

Digboi, Doomdooma, Margherita, Moranhat, Naharkatia, Chapakhowa, Jonai, Dhakuakhena, Duliajan, Ledo, Makum, Kamalabari, Sarupathan, Sbnari, Amguri, Kazirangai Titabor, Mariani, Dergaon, Udalpuri, B. Charali, Rangapara, Badarpur, Lela, Lakhipur, Udharbond, Hamren, Hojai, Maibong Kaliabor, Bokajan, Jagi Road, Umrangshu, Lumding Singi, Marihat, Abhayapuri, Gossarigaon, Bijni, Bilashipara, Manas, Jogighopa, Dhaligaon Barpeta Road, Rangia, Chandrapur, Dumaria, Hajo, Soal-kuchi.

Non-working of telephones in Calcutta

684. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 60 per cent telephone connections of "45" and "49" Exchange of Calcutta Telephones installed in the areas of Mahesh Dutt Lane and Chetla have not been functioning for more than a year or so;

(b) -whether the subscribers' complaints are being attended to for monthes together due to shortage of staff:

(c) whether Government have suffered huge financial loss due to non-working of these telephones and the authorities of Calcutta Telephones have not fixed any responsibility on anyone for suoh revenue losses;

(d) whether some Members of Parliament had requested time and again for rectification of faults of some telephones which were also neglected by Calcutta Telephones; and

(e) if so the facts thereof and details of telephones numbers in the area of Mehesh Dutt Lane that are presently lying faulty?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PRAKASH): (a) No Sir.

(b) No Sir_ Prompt action is initiated to attend all subscribers complaints. But due to large scale cable breakdowns in monsoon and staff agitation; the restoration work gets delayed.

(c) Numbers of telephones in Mahesh Dutt Lane are only 32, out of which at present only 6 are faulty. The revenue loss suffered is not high. As the restoration work depends on large number of factors, it is not possible to fix responsibility on any single individual.

(d) It is true that requests from Members of Parliament had been received. All such requests have been examined promptly and phones have been set right if feasible.

(e) Out of 32 telephones in Mahesh Dutt lane, at present only 6 are out of order. The telephone numbers are: —

450968
492138
492698
493425
491237
491938

Clarical work *to* telephone operators in Kidwai Bhawan, telephone exchange.

685. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Telephone operators in the Kidwai Bhavan

Telephone Exchange, New Delhi have been asked by the authorities to attend to the clerical work;

(b) whether there is great resentment amongst the Telephone Operators in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of T. Os attending clerical work since their appointment; and

(d) by when the T. Os who are attend ing to clerical work would be assigned the job as per their posts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PRA-KASH): (a) No. Sir, only very few Telephone Operators are on these jobs.

(b) No. Sir. They are appointed out of the panel prepared by calling volunteers.

(c) Only 34 Telephone Operators out of 2370 are assigned non-operational duties as on date on tenure basis.

(d) The tenure for this posting is three years.

Evacuation of Indians from Iraq and Kuwait

686. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have so far been taken to evacuate the Indians from Iraq and Kuwait indicating the number of Indians evacuated so far; and

(b) what steps have so far been taken to secure compensation for the assets left behind by Indian evacuees in Iraq and Kuwit indicating the total assets left behind by them, and the total compensation secured so far?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): The Government have taken all possible steps to repatriate Indian citizens from Iraq and Kuwait So far, nearly 1, 50, 000 Indian citizen's have been repartriated from Iraq and Kuwait.

(b) The registratien on the value of the movable and immobable property left behind by Indians in Kuwait is under consideration. Government of India would be guided in this regard by UN Security Council Resolution No. 674 inviting all States to collect relevant information; regarding their claims and those of their nationals and corporations for restitution or financial compensation by Iraq with a view to such arrangements as may be established in accor-' dance with international law.

Action against big industrial houses for discharging effluents

687. SHRl SUKOMAL SEN: Wil] the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FOR-ESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take action against big industrial units/ houses for discharging effluents into rev-ers without treating them, thus causing havoc to marine lives and the people residing around the units; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) antf (b Action against major industrial units under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is taken in those cases where the units fail to take steps to control pollution caused by their effluents^ Concerted action by the State Pollution Control Boards has been initiated against the major polluting in-dustries of 10 categories to ensure that these comply with prescribe standards within a time bound programme. These section include oil refining, pulp and paper, basic drugs, dyes and dye intermediates, pesticides manufacture petrochemicals, clusters of tanneries, sugar, pharmaceuticals and fertilizers.